EDMUND G. BROWN, Governor

APRIL 1966

HAROLD J. POWERS, Director

CONTRACTORS AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

All contractors know that there are numerous laws which govern their contracting operations. With many ordinances and regulations they have a day to day confrontation. With others, and particularly the Contractors License Law, the degree of familiarity varies. This is also true of the knowledge of the legislative processes.

Basically, a simple noncontroversial proposal, if introduced in the Assembly, would trace the following path. When a Legislator has agreed to author a bill, he forwards a rough draft of the proposed legislation to the Legislative Counsel, who determines whether it is constitutional and that does not conflict with other legislation. The Legislative Counsel prepares the bill in proper form and re-

The author takes the bill to the Chief Clerk of the Assembly, where it is assigned a number, dated and read for the first time. The bill is then passed along to the Speaker, who assigns it to the proper committee.

turns it to the author.

The committee sets the bill for hearing and it appears in the Assembly Daily File. At the hearing the proponents and the opponents have an opportunity to speak for or against the bill. If it receives a "do pass" from the committee, it is referred back to the full Assembly where the clerk reads it for the second time. No vote is taken on the second reading. However, on the following or third reading, the author gets up and explains the proposal to the members of the Assembly and asks for an aye vote. If no opposition is raised, the bill moves out to the Senate where the entire process is repeated.

After passing the Senate, the bill is returned to the house of origin for wollment and engrossing. The bill at then sent to the Governor for sig-

nature and when signed, becomes law at some future date.

Every session of the Legislature will bring about some change in the Contractors License Law. Many contractors feel that legislation affecting contractors stems from the Contractors' State License Board. Not true. With the welfare of the general public of first importance, industry representatives initiate and work for passage of legislation which will be beneficial to the industry. The board and the registrar do participate in every legislative program and cooperate with all the industry representatives.

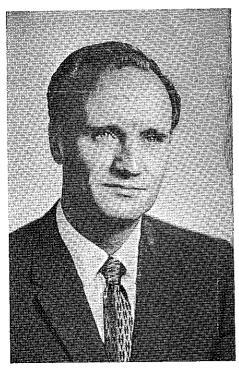
Most of the many contractors' associations throughout California have permanent legislative committees. Some have a full- or part-time legislative advocate.

These committees and advocates work throughout the year in preparing and screening proposals, which may ultimately become law. When the Legislature is in session, they review all bills to determine what effect each might have on the construction industry. They appear before legislative committees and talk to individual legislators in support or opposition to a measure.

Among construction groups most active in the legislative program is the Construction Industry Legislative Council, popularly known as the CILC. Formed in 1947 by the California State Builders Exchange, in concert with other industry groups, the CILC speaks for a wide cross-section of those engaged in the construction industry, including general contractors, materialmen, architects, engineers and many specialty contractors' associations.

Within the CILC, committees have been formed, each of which deals with (Continued on page 5)

C.L.L.C. MAN IN SACRAMENTO



Leslie W. Miller

Les Miller, since 1956 legislative advocate for the Construction Industry Legislative Council, was born in Winnipeg, Canada. He graduated from the University of Manitoba and also took special courses in business law at the Angus School of Commerce.

During World War II Les was a bomber pilot with the Royal Canadian Air Force. Since 1947 he has been a resident of California.

He is a former Assistant Secretary of the California State Senate and was also on the staff of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

A familiar figure in the Capitol corridors, Les is a member of Phi Theta Pi Fraternity, the Elks, Comstock Club of Sacramento and the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco.

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> STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDMUND G. BROWN, Governor HAROLD J. POWERS, Director

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FREDERIO H. BRUMM and GORDON E. EATON

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN-2nd QUARTER, 1965-66

REVOKED

| Adams Construction & Investment Co. 1228 Ceaso Dr., La Mirada. 12/16/68 Secs. 7107, 7113, 7113, 7113, Annaigamated Construction Co., Inc. 33 Honey Hill Rd., Orinda. 12/16/68 Secs. 7108, 7110, 711 712, 7113, 713, 7 | 120 7120 |
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DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN-2nd QUARTER, 1965-66

REVOKED—Continued

| Name | Address | Effective date | Violations |
|---|---|--|--|
| Stephenson's Acoustics Storlie Enterprises Storlie Enterprises Sun City Interiors Swift Electric, Inc. T & S Air Conditioning Tri-State Construction Co. Ulrich, Herman Henry United Excavation Corp. Valdez, Jimmy, Pool Plastering Wall, Bill, Carpet Linoleum and Tile Wayne-Bilt Construction Company Western Guniting Corp. Wishard and Edwards, Contractors Wishard, Loyal G. | 11224 Ramona Biyd., El Monte. 42465 Wisconsin St., Palm Desert. 58 Muir Avo., Santa Clara. 809 Lincoln Avo., Santa Clara. 2310 Brown Avo., Santa Clara. 1613 Pacific Coast Hwy., Hormosa Beach. 8330 Atlantic Ave., South Gato 8012 San Lazzaro Cir., Buena Park. 2820 Mohawk St. Santa Rosa. 812 Colorado Avo., Modesto 9830 Atlantic Ave., South Gate | 10/ 8/65 10/29/65 12/23/65 11/30/65 10/29/65 12/14/65 10/ 6/65 11/30/65 12/ 8/65 11/16/65 10/ 6/65 | Sec. 7113.5 Sec. 7117, 7113, 7113.5 Sec. 7107, 7113, 7113.5 Sec. 7113.5 Sec. 7113.5 Secs. 7103, 7100, 7111, 7113, 7120 Secs. 7103, 7113.5, 7110, 7120 Sec. 7112, 500, 7097, 7098 Sec. 7112, 500, 7113.5 Secs. 7110, 7113.5 Secs. 7100, 7097, 7098 Secs. 7097, 7098 Sec. 7125.5 |

SUSPENDED

Effaction

| Name | Address | Effective date | e Violations |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| | _ 6006 Vantage Ave., North Hollywood | | Sees. 7114, 7169 Sec. 7120 For 120 days; 110 days stayed |
| | P.O. Box 1068, Redondo Beach | | with conditions Secs. 7107, 7113, 7122.5; |
| | P.O. Box 736, Lake Arrowhead | | for 60 days; stayed with conditions Sec. 7122.5 |
| | _ 17033 Via Cielo, San Lorenzo | | For 30 days Secs. 7114, 7116 |
| | _ 1030 Calle Paseo, Novato | | For 60 days Secs. 7113.5, 7122 |
| | 641 N. Lamer, Burbank | | For 30 days Sec. 7122.5 For 10 days; stayed with condi- |
| | 7401 Westlawn Ave., Los Angeles | | tions Secs. 7121, 7122.5 |
| Bridgeford, Herbert E. | Gen. Del., Central Valley | 11/30/65 | For 180 days Sec. 7121 |
| | 2764 Footbill Blvd., Oakland | | For 30 days Secs. 7113.5, 7120 |
| Bryan, Robert L. | 8010 E. Garvey Ave., S. San Gabriel | 12/17/65 | For 30 days Sec. 7113.5 |
| Burns, Joe | 19132 Times Ave., Hayward | 11/23/65 | For 30 days Secs. 7109, 7110, 7113, 7113.5, 7116, 7119 |
| C & C Plastering Co. | 1617 Hi-Point, Los Angeles | 11/26/65 | For 30 days Secs. 7107, 7109, 7113, 7120; |
| | . 6005 Vantage Ave., North Hollywood | | For one month Sec. 7122.5 For 120 days; 110 days stayed |
| Cable Construction Co | . 1238 Monroe St., Salinas | 12/10/65 | with conditions Secs. 7111, 7113, 7113.5, 7116, 7120 |
| Cardinal Electric Co. | 199 Broad St., San Francisco | 12/14/65 | For 180 days Sec. 7110 |
| | 1026 Pinehurst Ct., Millbrae | | For 10 days Sees, 7115, 7122,5 |
| | 2219 Grove Way, Castro Valley | | For 60 days Sec. 7122.5 |
| | 7486 Alma Vista, Sacramento | | For 30 days Sec. 7113.5 |
| | 12149 Havana St., San Fernando | | For 30 days permanently stayed. Secs. 7107, 7109, 7110, 7120 |
| DeMello Construction Company | | | For 90 days Socs. 7097, 7107, 7109, 7113, 7115, 7119, 7122.5 |
| DeMello and DeMello Construction Company | 10717 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood | 10/22/65 | For 180 days Secs. 7107, 7109, 7110, 7114, 7118, 7119 |
| Donon, Louis | 813 Westmount Dr., Los Angeles | 12/ 7/65 | For 180 days Sec. 7122,5 |
| FRAMECO | P.O. Box 282, Palmdale | 10/20/65 | For 60 days Sec. 7121 |
| Frenger, Kraemer | | | For 180 days Secs. 7122, 7122,5 |
| Garrett-Ours | | 12/ 7/65 | For 30 days Secs. 7108, 7113,5. 7114. 7117 |
| Gloria Construction Co | | | For 60 days Secs. 7097, 7098 |
| Honeyeutt, George | | | For 90 days Sec. 7109 |
| Hunnydee, Lee W. dba John Spurlock $Co_{\bullet,-}$ | | 11/16/65 | For 90 days permanently stayed Sec. 7123 |
| Koenig, Sheldon | | | For 365 days Secs, 7122, 7122.5 |
| w, Robert C, | | 10/ 5/65 | For 30 days Sees. 7107, 7109, 7113, 7113.5, 7114,7117,7119 |
| Litzinger, Paul Joseph | Box 410-B Chandler Rd., Quincy | 12/15/65 | For 180 days Secs. 7108, 7113, 7120 For an indefinite period |

Financial Solvency

Section 7067.5 of the Contractors License Law became effective September 17, 1965. This section requires that every applicant for an original license, other than joint venturers, for the reactivation of an inactive license, or for the reissuance or reinstatement of a revoked license, shall evidence financial solvency. It further provides that the applicant answer questions relative to his financial ability and condition and to provide a current financial statement prepared by a certified public accountant or by a public accountant.

In order to implement Section 7067.5, a form was prepared by the registrar's staff titled Financial Ability and Condition, which contains instructions to the applicant and to the accountant. This form properly completed and certified, together with a current financial statement, is a required part of applications for issuance of an original license, for the reactivation of an inactive license or reissuance of a revoked license.

As is often the case with new procedures considerable confusion resulted, so much so, that approximately 40 percent of all original applications had to be returned. In some cases no financial statement was filed, in others the statement was incomplete or not completed properly. The net result was that our paperwork increased and applicants were subjected to delays and perhaps additional expense.

It became increasingly evident to the registrar and his staff that the entire procedure should be critically reviewed. From the comments and questions of both applicants and public accountants we learned that the principal fault lay in the wording of the form. Accordingly we revised the form, eliminated the confusing language and changed the format to make it more readily understood by the applicant and his accountant.

The applicant is instructed to take the form to a certified public accountant or to a public accountant solely as a means of informing the accountant of what is required in his report. The form contains instructions for the accountant in preparing the financial report and notes the necessity for compliance with Rule 58 of the California State Board of Accountancy.

(Continued on page 4)

Financial Solvency

(Continued from page 3)

The financial statement is prepared by the accountant from the books and records and/or other information furnished by the applicant and an independent audit is not required. The statement should be compiled on a standard accounting form and in such a manner that it can be easily understood and processed by the clerical personnel in the application-examination section of the Contractors State License Board in Sacramento.

Following is an example of the type of an acceptable statement rendered by a public accountant in connection with a standard financial report submitted with an applicant's statement of financial ability and condition.

"The attached balance sheet was prepared after observing savings pass books, stock certificates and other supporting data. The applicant is not engaged in business and has no requirement to maintain accounting records as such.

"It is the opinion of the undersigned that the statement fairly represents the applicant's financial position and that the statement rendered complies with the requirements of Rule 58 of the California State Board of Accountancy."

The completed financial statement should be used by the applicant in completing his statement of financial ability and condition. He is required to indicate that his assets exceed his liabilities and in what amount. The applicant then certifies under penalty of perjury to the truth and accuracy of all statements, including the financial statement prepared by the accountant.

The financial statement and the statement of financial ability and condition must accompany the application

BAD NEWS FOR UNLICENSED CONTRACTORS

Since the last issue of the California Licensed Contractor, it has been clearly demonstrated in several jurisdictions that contracting without a license does not pay.

Castroville Judge Kenneth Blohm recently fined a defendant \$276 or 60 days in the county jail. The unlicensed contractor couldn't pay the fine and is now serving the jail sentence.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN-2nd QUARTER, 1965-66

SUSPENDED—Continued

| Name | Address | Effective date | , Violations |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| McGlocklin, Paul A. | 3950 Virginia Ave., Lynwood | 12/21/65 | Secs, 7107, 7113 |
| Meggs, Al & Son, Heating and Sheet Metal Contractors | | | For 90 days Sees. 7110, 7113.5 For 30 days |
| Melenudo, Robert Sanchez | 640 Borregas Ave., Sunnyvale | 12/23/65 | Secs. 7108, 7113, 7120 For 30 days |
| Montano, Tony | 14 San Carlos, El Cerrito | 12/23/65 | Sees. 7113.5, 7122.5 |
| Norris, Clyde C | 2310 Brown Ave., Santa Clara | 10/29/66 | For 30 days Sec. 7122.5 |
| Norris Construction Co | 2310 Brown Ave., Santa Clara | 10/29/65 | For 60 days Sec. 7122.5 |
| Palm, Roy | 3400 South F St., Oxnard | 10/ 5/65 | For 60 days Secs. 7109, 7113 |
| Pottroff, Jack W. | 2671 Richland, San Jose | 12/17/65 | For 30 days Sec. 7122 |
| R-Bees Framing | 8399 Via Norte Dr., Riverside | 10/20/65 | For 180 days Sec. 7110 |
| Ramirez, Al, Contractor | 420 S. Montebello Blyd., Montebello | 12/17/65 | For 180 days Soc. 7113.5 |
| Romart Builders, Incorporated | 413-23 N. Alameda, Compton | 12/15/65 | For 30 days Sec. 7113.5 |
| Roseberry Construction Company | 1248 E. Avo. R. Palmdale | 10/20/65 | For 60 days Sec. 7121 |
| S & S Builders | 4291 Ayocado Ave., Yorba Linda | 12/22/65 | For 180 days Sec. 7097 |
| Singer, Robert Edward | 33 Honeyhill Rd., Orinda | 12/16/65 | For 30 days Sec. 7122 |
| Sorensen, William J., Painting | 18291 Carlton Ave., Castro Valley | 11/16/65 | For 60 days Sec. 7115 |
| Spurlock, John, Company, Inc. | 5319 Grant St., San Diego | 11/16/65 | For 30 days Sec. 7123 |
| Steel, Don | 23140 S. Evalyn, Torrance | 12/ 9/65 | For 365 days Secs. 7121, 7122.5 For 180 days; 165 days stayed |
| Steigner, Martin E | 1122 W. Collins St., Orange | 12/22/65 | with conditions Secs. 7107, 7113, 7120 |
| Sun Air Conditioning & Plumbing Co | 71-384 Hwy. 111, Rancho Mirage | 11/30/65 | For 30 days Sec. 7115 |
| Swan Pools | 13336 Ventura Blyd., Sherman Oaks | 12/27/65 | For 5 days Secs. 7109, 7113 For 300 days stayed with condi- |
| Towne & Country Builders | 8340 Gardendale, Paramount | . 12/22/65 | tions (5 day suspension) Sec. 7097 For 30 days |

DENIED

| Name | Class | Grounds | Date denied |
|--|------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| A & R Drilling Co | C42 | 7069a | 11/23/65 |
| Allen T. IC | В1 | 7070, 7102 | 12/31/65 |
| 6902 Lundell St., Bell Gardens Chaoksfield, A. F. 1083 Carlsbad, Spring Valley | B1 | 7069, 7069a, 7102 | 12/21/65 |
| Electrical Construction Service | C10 - | 7069a | 12/ 8/65 |
| Hames, Louis F. 1109 Elaine Dr., Santa Ana | C33 | 7069a | 11/ 9/65 |
| 819 N. 8th St. Colton | B 1 | 7069, 7073 | 11/26/65 |
| Paul Painting and Decorating 208 Plymouth Ave., San Francisco | C33 | 7069a, 7069b | 11/30/65 |
| S-4-S Construction Co., Inc. 22347 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino | B1 | 7069a | 11/23/65 |
| 2251 Survein Creek Divd., Cupertine 8 & S Construction Company 1316 Sheffleld Way, Roscyille | Bi | 7069 | 11/ 2/65 |
| S & S Construction Company 1316 Sheffeld Way, Roscyille Solendor, Arthur Michael. 178 N, Crescent Dr., Beverly Hills Turner, Paul J. | В1 | 7069, 7069a, 7069a | 12/22/65 |
| 7257 17th St., Sagramento | B1 | 7069a | 11/23/65 |
| United Installations (Judson Lee May, Owner) | C86 | 7069a, 7112 | 10/29/65 |
| Wilson, Cunnigan E. 115 E. Cordova St., Pasadena | B1 | 7102 | 12/15/65 |

In Oakland Municipal Court, Judge Martin Pulich sentenced an unlicensed contractor to 180 days in the county jail.

San Andreas Judge Howard Blewett handed down the maximum penalty on two brothers found guilty by a jury of contracting without a license. Each of the brothers was ordered to jail for 180 days, fined \$500 and assessed \$50 each for officer's training. The two brothers served one month before being released on bail, pending the outcome of their appeal.

Contractors and the Legislative Process

(Continued from page 1)

a specific area of legislation affecting the construction industry. Currently, these committees are considering the Mechanics Lien Law, Contractors License Law, Administrative Procedures Act, State and Local Building Standards, Sub-bid Listing Law, and Bonding, Prequalification and Financial Responsibility.

Not only during legislative sessions, but throughout the year, the council meets regularly. In addition to Les Miller, full-time legislative advocate, there are many others who devote much time to the CILC. Active among them are:

Henry B. Ely—Airconditioning & Refrigeration Contractors Association

Darrell J. Turner—Bakersfield & Kern County Builders Exchange Jack Horner—Builders Exchange of Long Beach

Gale E. Dunn—California Association of Sheet Metal, Heating & Airconditioning Contractors

Ryan M. O'Brien—California Conference of Mason Contractor Associations, Inc.

John Marton—California Drywall Contractors Association

Clyde Bell—California Lathing & Plastering Contractors Association

Bill Steadman—California State Builders Exchange

Bob Simas—California State Builders Exchange

Anthony Meley—Sheet Metal Contractors Association of San Francisco

Ernest G. Kramm—National Electrical Contractors Association

Frank A. Nelson, Jr.—Painting & Decorating Contractors Association

J. D. Mack—Plumbing - Heating -Cooling Contractors of California

Howard E. Becker—Roofing Contractors Association of California

Albert B. Thomas — Sacramento Builders Exchange

Sherwood Sitz—Floor Covering Associations Steering Committee of Southern California

Frank D. Corbett — Tri-Counties Contractors Co-Ordinating Committee

A HISTORY OF BONDING IN THE CONTRACTORS LICENSE LAW

The necessity of a bond or cash deposit as a condition to the issuance of a license was added to the Contractors License Law in 1941 and applied to an individual who had been suspended or revoked because of diversion of funds or willful failure to pay construction bills after receiving sufficient funds. The provision also applied to those applicants who were members of copartnerships or corporations which had been disciplined for diversion of funds, fraud or willful failure to pay construction bills after receiving sufficient funds.

The amount of the bond specified in the initial legislation was to be fixed by the board based upon the magnitude of the operations of the applicant but not less than \$250 nor more than \$1,000.

This bond or cash deposit was conditioned upon compliance with all provisions of the Contractors License Law, and any person injured by the unlawful acts or omissions of the contractor could bring an action in a proper court on the bond or cash deposit for the amount of the damages up to the maximum of the bond or cash deposit on file.

The claim of an employee of the contractor for wages was a preferred claim and the determination of the validity and priority of any claim was to be made by the registrar in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of this chapter (disciplinary proceedings). All aspects of disciplinary action were conducted by the agency at this time and Article 7 outlined the procedures for filing accusations and conducting the hearings.

The bond section included the provision for pro rata distribution of the funds available and that partial payment would not fully satisfy claims. The registrar could continue suspension of the license until such time as the claims were paid in full.

The bond was required to remain in force and with the registrar during the time for which such year's license was issued and during such additional time as there may be unsatisfied claims

The above list represents many years of experience and many appearances before the Legislature. Much of the law, as it stands today, is the product of their deliberations.

outstanding against the same. Exactly how long or what these requirement actually meant was apparently never determined since because of the use of the permissions language "the board may require etc.," we can find no record of this bonding requirement being applied by the board or the registrar prior to 1961.

In 1945 Article 7 of the Contractors License Law was amended to provide that proceedings against a licensee be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act and by reference to Article 7 in the bond section, the determination of validity and priority of claims became a matter for determination by administra-

tive proceedings.

There were no significant changes in the language of the bonding section for 20 years. In 1961 legislation was enacted increasing the amount of the bond or cash deposit to a minimum of \$2,000 and a maximum of \$10,000. The most important and significant change, however, was the removal of the permissive language "may" and the substitution of the mandatory "shall" in the section. The registrar no longer had discretion in the matter, and any person as well as any copart. nership or corporation whose license had been suspended or revoked as a result of disciplinary action for any violation of the chapter was required to file the bond or post the cash deposit in order to be reinstated or reissued a license. The section also contained a provision which made the bonding requirement applicable to any person who may have been associated with a copartnership, association or corporation whose license had been disciplined. It was not specified that the person who was a copartner, officer or a corporation or responsible managing employee actually had to be himself guilty of a violation of the Contractors License Law or even have knowledge of the fact a violation was committed in order to be subject to the bonding requirement.

Because of this inequity and in an effort to clarify some of the more ambiguous aspects of the article the Legislature amended the section in 1963 to require knowledge of or participation in the violation as a prerequisite to the necessity for filing a bond, and increased the amount to a minimum

(Continued on page 6)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD 1020 N STREET, ROOM 572

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A HISTORY OF BONDING IN THE CONTRACTORS LICENSE LAW

(Continued from page 5) of \$3,000 and a maximum of \$10,000. The term of the bond was also increased from one to two years.

This 1963 legislation went much further into the bonding field by requiring all applicants as a condition to issuance, reissuance, reactivation or reinstatement of a license after January 1, 1964, to file a bond or post a cash deposit in the amount of \$1,000 and all applicants for active renewal of a license on July 1, 1965 to file the same bond or cash deposit.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the conditions for filing a claim and effecting recovery for damages covered by the bonding provisions are not entirely satisfactory. From the position of the claimant the necessity of a lawsuit against the licensee and the surety or cash depository poses the immediate consideration of whether or not the available funds warrant the necessary expenses. From the standpoint of the surety the issues are even more clouded. If the surety requires a lawsuit before paying a claim the expense of litigation can equal or exceed the loss on the bond. The necessary investigative work in

order to determine other possible claimants in order to properly interplead can cost many times the amount

printed in California office of state printing

of the penal sum of the bond along with the legal expenses of litigation.

Although the bond or cash deposit may have been responsible for some of the over twenty thousand licenses who did not renew on July 1, 1965, we have not yet had sufficient time or experience to evaluate the results. The number of complaints filed with the agency has not decreased despite the loss in registration and disciplinary actions filed equal or exceed prior years.

LICENSE FEES TO BE INCREASED

We have just received word that the Legislature has approved Senate Bill 5, the Contractors' State License Board's fee bill, just before adjourning. The bill is on the Governor's desk and should be signed by the time this bulletin is printed.

The new fee structure for original applicants for a license in a single classification is increased from \$20 to \$50 with the board granted the authority to increase this fee to a maximum of \$100.

A fee of \$20 will be charged for each additional classification applied for in connection with an original license, with the board granted authority to increase this fee to a maximum of \$40.

Applicants filing for a supplemental classification or to change responsible managing officer or employee, must pay a fee of \$20. The board may also increase this fee to a maximum of \$40.

The renewal fee for an active license will be increased to \$50 with the board granted authority to increase the fee to a maximum of \$100. The renewal fee for an inactive license will be \$15 which the board may increase to \$30.

The delinquency fee will no longer be \$5, but will be an amount equal to 50 percent of the renewal fee.

The initial license fee is based upon the renewal fee and whether the license will have more or less than a year to run before it must be renewed.